



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

11 OCTOBER 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

R. I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing
I shall want. / Fresh and green are the
pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near
restful waters he leads me, / to revive my
drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he
is true to his name. / If I should walk in the
valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You
are there with your crook and your staff; /
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the
sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed
with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**



4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow
me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own
house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich
too. I have been through my initiation and now
I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach
or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is
nothing I cannot master with the help of the
One who gives me strength. All the same, it was
good of you to share with me in my hardships.
In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in
Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory
to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of
our heart, / that we might see how great
is the hope / to which we are called. /
Alleluia!



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South

Parish Office: 707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162 ☎ 95285988 ✉ elsternwick@cam.org.au

✉ P.O.Box 664, Elsternwick 3185 🌐 www.melbcatholic.org/stjosephholycross

PARISH PRIEST : Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Eugene San SAC

Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam

Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

In Residence: Fr Zsolt Kiss

Mass

Wednesday and Friday 10:00am

Saturday 6:30pm, Sun 10:30am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass and Saturday 6:00pm

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am

Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass

ST ANTHONY'S, GLEN HUNTLY

74, Grange Road, Glen Huntly 3163

In Residence: Fr Pat Jackson SAC, Br Lindsay Rust SAC

Mass

Monday - Saturday 9:15am

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Reconciliation

30-mins before all Masses and Saturday 9:45am - 10:10am

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$868.65 Presbytery: \$913.65

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm S Bettoni

Sunday 9:00am D Duffy 10:30am A De Silva

Counters: No Counting

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Thu 15 Oct: St Teresa of Jesus

Sun 18 Oct: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thanksgiving



Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Our Chapel offers a quiet, sacred space to pray and to spend time with Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The Chapel can be accessed 24/7 with a security tag. To apply, contact the Parish Office. A fully refundable security deposit will be required.

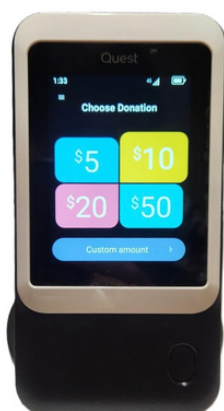
Parish Thanksgiving

"Every good and perfect gift is from above..." ~ James 1:17

Following our recent Parish Thanksgiving Campaign, we invite you to continue supporting the ongoing works of our Parish and Clergy.

For your convenience, an EFTPOS machine is now located at the back of the church. Simply tap your card or device to make your offering.

You can also set up a recurring offering using the Thanksgiving QR code above.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Ps 129:3-4)

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 33:11)

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: Virginia Poloie Tu'l, Sister Miriam-Elizabeth Cusack, Bernadette Duffy, Sue Besomo, Dolores Conte

**Names are published for a month, unless further requested.*

Recently Deceased: Anthony Messina, Susan Haywood, Lidia Lima

Death Anniversary: -

Youth & Young Adults Hosting Mass: 24th October

The Youth & Young Adults' Group of our Parish will host the 6:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass on the 4th Saturday of every month at St Joseph's Church.

Mass is preceded by Adoration and Confessions starting at 5:30pm.

Celebrating Friendships!

This month, the young people will gather for a light supper, fellowship and music after Mass at St Joseph's School Atrium.



Divine Playhouse Petition

There is an anti-Catholic 'art' exhibition in the Museum of Modern Art and brave Archbishop Fisher is pushing back at the NSW government for funding it and he seeks support.

If you would like to sign a letter to the NSW Minister for the Arts, requesting that no government funding be allocated to the ridicule of religious belief please click on the link below.

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/divine-playhouse-petition/>

International Pallottine Family Feast Day

Day of Retreat, Reflection and Renewal

Saturday, 24th October, 10am to 3pm
St Anthony's Church

Prayer, Input from Fr Eugene San SAC, Reflection, Sharing Time, Input from Mary Whiting, Lunch, Act of Apostolic Commitment, Reflection, Holy Mass.

All members of the Pallottine Family are expected to annually Renew their Act of Apostolic Commitment at this time.

Kindly email pfn@uacpallottines.au to RSVP for catering purposes by 22/10/2026.



Rosary after Sunday Mass in October

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

It was initiated to express gratitude and honour the Blessed Virgin Mary for the protection that she gives the Church when we pray the Rosary.

All are invited to join us in praying the Rosary immediately after the 10:30am Sunday Mass at St Joseph's Church.

Pope Leo XIV's October Prayer Intention

The month of October has been dedicated to the mental health ministry by Pope Leo XIV.

That the Church may become 'a safe space where everyone has a place—a community that accompanies and never excludes, that listens without judging and draws near without fear' said the Pope.

The Pope prayed that the Church may be an 'open house' where people facing challenges to their mental health find welcome, dignity and hope.

Trivia Lunch - 14th October

Join us at the Holy Cross Parish Hall every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12-noon. Bring your own lunch, enjoy the Trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.

Youth Gathering, Registration Open!



In preparation to the 2027 World Youth Day (WYD) in Seoul, all young people are invited to gather with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as we celebrate the Church's annual World Youth Day.

Join us for Mass and afternoon tea, break open the WYD theme and learn more about our pilgrimage to South Korea for WYD Seoul 2027!

Open to all aged 15 to 30 years.

Register by Wednesday 18 November 2026

Enquiries: proclaim@cam.org.au or 9926 5761.

Event Date: Sunday 22 November 2026

Time: 2.00pm–5.00pm

Venue: Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne VIC 3002

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Those seeking renewal of faith or desiring to become Catholics please come to our RCIA sessions on Thursdays, 6.30pm at Holy Cross Community Hall.

For more info contact our Parish Office.

Rosary by Young People at St Anthony's Church

During October, the month of the Rosary, you are invited to come to join the youth in praying the Rosary every Friday at 7pm in the Church, followed by light refreshments.

Friday 9th October: Adoration and Rosary

Friday 16th October: Rosary followed by a talk by Sister Herlin, SSsP on the WYD theme "Take courage I have conquered the world". Sr. Herlina is from Indonesia and a member of Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit. She is a PhD student at Yarra Theological Union College. The Holy Spirit Sisters are present in 49 countries with 51 nationalities. They are involved in education, health ministry, pastoral services, JPIC, inter-religious dialogue.

Friday 23rd October: Adoration and Rosary

Friday 30th October: To be advised

28th Ordinary Sunday Year A

Hi everyone!

We are all invited to a BANQUET! Please be reminded of this standing invitation sent by God himself, to the banquet that will never end! This is an invitation to an eternity of peace and joy in the presence of our creator God.

How wonderful it would be to be able to attend this invitation to paradise. At this never-ending celebration there will be no death and shame; our sadness will be turned into joy, and our tears will be wiped away. Unfortunately, we can't "save the date", because the invitation does not mention a date. We can, of-course, RSVP. Let every moment of ours, every word, thought and deed be an RSVP, saying a big "YES" to the loving invitation from God our Father.

This Sunday's Gospel passage speaks about our attendance on this occasion and about the dress-code as well. The dress, the wedding garment that the Gospel speaks of, is none other than a worthy way of life, a "dress" washed clean in the blood of Christ. Would our worldly lifestyle be an obstacle to entering into the venue of this great celebration? Would any of us miss out on this?

The second part of the parable gives us a clue that we could miss out. Then, how can one ensure that he/she follows the dress code and be let in? It's challenging! but we have the grace of God for our help. We are still in time to change and clothe ourselves with the grace of God in order to participate in the heavenly Eucharist.

The Generous Invitation: God invites everyone - good and bad alike - to share in the joy of His kingdom. The feast is ready, and His love has no limits.

The Danger of Distractions: In the Gospel, the invited guests ignore the call because they are preoccupied with their farms and businesses. We, too, can get so caught up in the noise of daily life that we neglect our relationship with God.

The Wedding Garment: Entering the feast requires a transformed heart. The garment symbolizes putting on Christ—living out love, forgiveness, kindness, and mercy as true disciples".

RSVP ASAP!

Son: "Hey, mom, can you loan me twenty bucks?"

Mom: Does it look like I'm made of money?

Son: "Isn't that what M.O.M. stands for?"

First Holy Communion

The Year 4 students of St Joseph's School will receive their Sacrament of First Eucharist on Thursday, 29th October, 2026

Please keep these young people and their families in your prayers as they make their final preparations.

St Anthony's Spring Plant Sale

Sunday 25th October from 9:30am to 1:30pm

Beautiful plants, books & cakes, pre-loved treasure and refreshments.

Proceeds help Tony's Café Soup Kitchen keep up their good work.

Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver

The Annual Mission Fair will be held on Saturday 17 October 9am – 2.30pm at 154 Cotham Road, Kew.

Proceeds go to the Franciscan Sisters of St Joseph, Kisumu for water tanks.

GOSPEL

Mt 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10

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Breaking Open the Word

COME TO THE WEDDING!

For the third Sunday, Jesus addresses religious leaders. Again, as last Sunday, it concerns their refusal to accept God's invitation to join the feast of the Kin-dom. Jesus describes the Kin-dom as a wedding feast hosted by a king for his son.

Those invited fail to turn up for this sumptuous feast. 'Come to the wedding' is the invitation, but, according to Matthew's story, they are 'not interested'. They have different distractions and interests. Joining the king's feast is not on their agenda. The invitation is in fact such an annoyance or distraction that the invitees maltreat and even kill the messengers. The king responds punishing them. Clearly, the king's response is not meant to represent God. It would be unfortunate to make this identification and reinforce the image of a punishing God!

The point of the story is about the attitude of those invited to join the heavenly banquet, an image of the eucharistic celebration, and those who will eventually join the feast. These guests are identified in the Gospel's last verses: people from the 'roads', symbolic of all people on the path of life and the synodal journey. Everyone, 'bad and good alike', fill the wedding hall. The Eucharist is not a reward for the perfect but sustenance for the weak – for us. As Pope Francis writes, 'The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' (*The Joy of the Gospel*, n 47).

Fr Michael Trainor